

American Lutheran Church
Application of Interest for Congregation Call Committee

Name: _____ Date: _____

Explain your interest in serving on the Congregation Call Committee

"And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight to help you determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless." Philippians 1:9-10

Role of the Call Committee

The role of the call committee is of critical importance as it leads American Lutheran through the process of discerning God's will for this congregation in order that the Gospel may be proclaimed and sacraments administered. The committee is given the responsibility and privilege of interviewing potential pastoral candidates and selecting a pastor to present to the council for recommendation to this congregation. This is to be done prayerfully and carefully. The committee recognizes that the church's call to a pastor to serve as its shepherd is much different than a hiring process.

The Call Process

The Lutheran call process is unique. We believe it is our Lord Jesus Christ, through the power of the Holy Spirit, who guides American Lutheran's call process. The calling of our new pastor represents a valuable partnership between God, our congregation, and the Northeast Iowa synod of the ELCA. An ideal call process builds on trust, openness, and good communication, resulting in a match suiting both the congregation and the new pastor.

Call Committee Composition

Six members- Two current Church Council members and four members from the congregation at large. The committee should intentionally reflect the demographics of American Lutheran - age, gender, membership.

General Characteristics and Expectations of Committee Members

- **Strong evidence of faith-** Faithful in worship. Persons of prayer who will faithfully and carefully seek to discern God's will for this congregation.
- **Active in the life of the congregation-** Involved in the life and ministry of the congregation beyond worship, and familiar with its programs and activities.
- **Positive and enthusiastic spirit-** Positive and hopeful outlook with a deep sense of the vision and mission of the congregation.
- **Faithful stewards-** Recognize that all that they have and are belongs to God. As good stewards, share their gifts of time, talent, and treasures in the ministry of God's Kingdom.
- **Commitment and follow-through-** Committee members are charged with a significant responsibility. Meetings may be frequent and a willingness to share and participate fully in the work of the committee is critical.
- **Maintain confidentiality** – It is extremely important that all committee members are discreet and professional. Call candidate names and information must be kept strictly confidential during discussions.
- **Selfless** - Leaving behind personal gain or agenda for the sake of God's will and the common good. Good listeners-accepting others' points of view.